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Letter dated 26 August 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that the eighteenth ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Community of the Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) held on 18 July 2013, in Maputo, Mozambique, had as one of its agenda items "The situation in Guinea-Bissau". In this regard, it adopted two important documents, namely, the Declaration on the situation in Guinea-Bissau and the resolution on the dispatch of a Special Envoy to Guinea-Bissau (see annex). As a Chair of CPLP, I herewith submit both documents to you. I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the way in which you have led the work of the Security Council during the month of August.

(*Signed*) António **Gumende**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 26 August 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Eighteenth ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Maputo, 18 July 2013

Declaration on the situation in Guinea-Bissau

The Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP), at its eighteenth ordinary meeting, held in Maputo on 18 July 2013;

Taking into account the Declaration of the ninth Conference of Heads of State and Government of CPLP, held in Maputo on 20 July 2012, on the situation in Guinea-Bissau;

Reaffirming the resolutions adopted by the eighth and ninth extraordinary meetings of the Council of Ministers;

Recalling the Statement issued on 12 June 2013 on the formation and establishment of an inclusive government in Guinea-Bissau;

Recalling United Nations Security Council resolutions 2048 (2012) and 2103 (2013);

Reiterating the solidarity and the unconditional support of CPLP to Guinea-Bissau;

Underlining the importance of the articulation of efforts between CPLP and the partner organizations of Guinea-Bissau to the political, social and institutional normalization of the country;

Considering that the formation of an inclusive government and the scheduling of general elections on 24 November 2013 constitute significant progresses towards the restoration of the constitutional order in Guinea-Bissau;

Affirming, on the other hand, that the lack of effective civilian control and oversight over the defence and security forces threatens the political process and the functioning of State institutions;

Welcoming the holding of the second joint assessment mission to Guinea-Bissau, from 7 to 11 July 2013, and the relevance of its preliminary observations and recommendations;

1. *Urges* the political actors of Guinea-Bissau to make all efforts in order to hold free, fair and transparent general elections, with full respect for democracy, humans rights and fundamental freedoms, on the date scheduled; and to implement the commitments made to reform the State, including the reform of the defence and security sector, of the judiciary system and of the public administration; *further urges them* to create the conditions for the return in safety and freedom to Guinea-Bissau of all its citizens in exile, and to combat impunity and drug trafficking;

2. *Calls upon* the international community to continue the coordination and convergence of its efforts in support of the return of Guinea-Bissau to constitutional normalcy and of the promotion of socioeconomic development, an indispensable element for peace consolidation and stability;

3. *Commends* the work of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Guinea-Bissau, José Ramos-Horta, and of the Special Representative of the African Union for Guinea-Bissau, Ambassador Ovídeo Pequeno, for the coordination of the international efforts for Guinea-Bissau; and the activities of the Executive Secretary of CPLP, Ambassador Murade Murargy, to deepen the dialogue with the Economic Community of West African States and other international organizations interested in Guinea-Bissau.

Maputo, 18 July 2013

Eighteenth ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Maputo, 18 July 2013

Resolution on the Deployment of a Special Representative for Guinea-Bissau

The Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP), at its eighteenth ordinary meeting, held in Maputo on 18 July 2013;

Recalling that the statutes of CPLP provide for in their article 5 encouraging cooperation among its members with the aim of promoting democratic practices, good governance and respect for human rights;

Reiterating the solidarity and the unconditional support of CPLP to Guinea-Bissau;

Underlining the importance of the articulation between CPLP and the partner organizations of Guinea-Bissau in their efforts aimed at the political, social and institutional normalization of the country;

Considering that the review of the Transitional Pact and of the Political Agreement, the appointment of the President and the members of the National Elections Commission and the scheduling of the general elections on 24 November 2013 are important measures towards the restoration of the constitutional order and the political, economic and social stabilization of Guinea-Bissau;

Considering the recommendations of the second joint assessment mission to Guinea-Bissau, from 7 to 11 July 2013, which affirm the need for a post-electoral agenda in order to undertake the reforms of the State, especially in the defence and security and justice sectors and in public administration;

Taking into account the need to coordinate the international efforts in support of Guinea-Bissau;

DECIDES:

1. *To appoint* a Special Representative of CPLP to follow, on the ground, the evolution of the situation in Guinea-Bissau until the conclusion of the electoral process and to submit to the member States a report on the relevance of the establishment of an office of CPLP in that country, once the institutional normalcy is restored, and taking into account the need to coordinate the international efforts to support Guinea-Bissau;

2. *To recommend* to the Standing Coordinating Committee to examine and define as soon as possible terms of reference for the Special Representative of CPLP for Guinea-Bissau.

Maputo, 18 July 2013